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DENNIS NESTER

MR. NESTER: For those of you though who didn't hear me, I'll repeat a little bit about the human impact of an environmental radiation. These are Chernobyl babies deformed from radioactive contamination. Hydrocephalic cleft lip. This was -- this picture was in the material from the World Uranium Hearing in Salzburg, Austria.

I'm here to offer an alternative to burial. Nuclear waste can be totally eliminated at each reactor where it is stored and generate electric power. Essentially nuclear waste can be used as a fuel, and at the end of the cycle, it is totally eliminated. It is gone.

Burial of nuclear waste is not a safe solution. There are no sites, no containers and no place on earth which can safely store high-level radioactive waste for half a million years, which is twenty half-lives of plutonium 239. Russia was first to try solid medium burial in their nuclear dump in the Ural Mountains. It exploded in the 1950s. No one is allowed near. It is so radioactive now. France also tried dry cask burial or vitrification as it's called and found it a failed technology and asked China to take France's nuclear waste. China said no.

In only fifty years of the nuclear age, waste has leaked out of its containment at Hanford Nuclear Reservation in the State of Washington. It is leaking in the Columbia River. USA Today; right? Washington is suing the DOE over the debacle, and the governor quotes: "How many people would want to eat agriculture product if they knew they were fed with radioactive water?" So the next time you try a Washington Delicious apple, you might wave it over a geiger counter first.

And there has been some talk about how good dry cask technology is. Here's the New York Times article. It says: "To maximize the chance that they will stay intact for thousands of years, the stainless steel is handled only by machines or by gloved hands because the chemists say that even the salt on sweaty palms would begin to corrode the stainless steel, which is three-eighths of an inch thick," and this is supposed to last a half a million years, and just it will corrode from the salt on your hand.

There is a viable alternative to nuclear waste. In 1979, Dr. Radha R. Roy, Professor of Physics, Arizona State University released to the press that he had invented a new process that would transform all nuclear waste into harmless, non-radioactive elements and generate electric power as a byproduct. It can be done with existing infrastructure, commercially available machinery and current support technology. Example, plutonium 239 has a half-life of 24,300 years. Previously with the Roy process, it becomes plutonium 237 with a half-life of forty-five days.

Repeated treatment will transmute plutonium into non-radioactive lead. The Roy process produces heat which can be used to make steam and power existing generators and each reactor where the waste is stored. The infrastructure's there. No need to move or bury nuclear waste. With the Roy process, nuclear waste can be used as fuel.

In 1979, Dr. Roy estimated it would cost 80 million dollars to design and build the first pilot plant. There remains about a year's work calculating parameters. All the necessary theoretical and electrodynamical work on the process has been completed. There was only about a year's work and we have the first pilot plant for 80 million dollars.

MR. LAWSON: Thirty seconds, please.

MR. NESTER: Okay. September 1, New York Times article, "the Energy Department has spent 23 billion dollars in a five-year period. Spent 23 billion dollars during the last" -- I got to have a glass of

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water. I can't even say the words. New York City Times article: "The Energy Department has spent 23 billion dollars during the last five years to clean up nuclear waste, but little cleanup resulted, partly because of resistance to new technology,' a government audit said today." So by law, by the Nuclear Waste Policy, the government or the DOE cannot even look at alternatives like this. This was released in 1979 after Three Mile Island happened, and in 1982, they installed a new energy -- nuclear waste policy making burial, so that buries are. For twenty years, it's been here waiting to be used, and nuclear waste can be eliminated and generate power from it. Something's rotten in Denmark, folks.